

B-3321 - B-3333  
4-48 E. Cross St. (North side)  
Baltimore, Md.  
Private access

1850-1867

The pair of houses at 4-6 E. Cross St. was originally built as a pair of two story plus attic, two bay wide brick houses with gable roofs, but 4 E. Cross St. has been enlarged and is now three stories in height with a shed roof and bracketed cornice. 8 E. Cross St. is a small, two story, gable-roofed house typical of the type built on nearby Patapsco St. in the 1850's. 10 and 12-38 E. Cross St. are all three story, two bay wide, brick houses with gable roofs that serve a mixed commercial/residential purpose. The houses were built both just before and just after the Civil War by John S. Gittings and George Williamson, who each built alternating pairs of similar houses. 26-28 and 38 E. Cross St. have had their original gable roofs rebuilt as shed roofs and 38 E. Cross St. has a bracketed cornice. 46 E. Cross St. is a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice whose first floor area is currently being converted to a shopfront. 48 E. Cross St. is a two story, two bay wide, brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice which has recently been converted to modern shopfront space.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 38 E. Cross St.

CITY, TOWN Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Baltimore

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

B-3331

### CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three story, two bay brick building with shed roof and bracketed cornice represents an enlargement and remodeling of the original gable roofed house that was built on this site in the 1850's and later formed part of a row of such houses extending along this side of Cross St. The first floor area has been converted into a store-front. The building has been recently renovated.

The building is three stories in height, about 14 1/2' wide, and occupies a lot 62 1/2' deep. The building is two rooms deep and has a two story high, three bay deep rear addition. The building is constructed in running bond. The shed roof is capped by a wooden cornice consisting of a deeply projecting crown molding supported by a row of grooved modillions bordered by a row of quarter-round carvings. Three grooved brackets (with an additional bracket around the eastern corner) support the entire cornice and connect it to a lower molding strip decorated with a row of cut-work scallops. There is a single hooded chimney located along the east side of the front section of the building.

The second and third story window openings have common arch lintels with solid wood tympanums. The sills are wood. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. The first floor area has been converted into a store-front. There is a glass and panel door located in the easternmost bay, flanked by a multi-paned (six wide panes) window set on a wood paneled base. A simple wooden cornice, consisting of a deeply projecting crown molding supported by a row of flat modillions, extends across the entire width of the store-front. The entrance is reached by one stone step.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1852-1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John S. Gittings

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See under 14-16 E. Cross St.

When this house was finally sold by the Gittings family in 1906, it was sold to Lena Bowers, who operated an ice-cream parlor at this location until 1917.<sup>1</sup> The original tin ceiling of the Bowers' ice-cream parlor remains in the building, which has been restored and now serves once again as an ice-cream parlor.

<sup>1</sup>Baltimore City Land Records, Liber RO 2219, Folio 406.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14'9" x 62'5"**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

STREET &amp; NUMBER

5/79  
TELEPHONE1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



## HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION

### APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

**Instructions:** Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

#### PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Sundae Times Icecream Parlor

Address of property: Street 38 East Cross Street

City Baltimore County \_\_\_\_\_ State Maryland Zip Code 21230

Name of historic district in which property is located Federal Hill Historic District (National Register District designated 1970)

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

The Sundae Times Icecream Parlor was built c.1875. It is a three story, two bay, brick structure with a shed roof, wood trim, and a rear, two story addition. The brick facade is stretcher bond. The wood storefront comprises two panels below the wood frame, six pane display window; wood vertical panels at each end of the

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary) 38 East Cross Street is an integral component of the Federal Hill National Register Historic District in terms of its historical associations with the cross street market; its architectural integrity; and its renovation as part of the commercial and neighborhood revitalization of South Baltimore.

Date of construction (if known): c. 1875 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): 1977

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name Cross Street Development Co. c/o Struever Brothers & Eccles, Inc.

Street 519 North Charles Street

City Baltimore State Md. Zip Code 21202

Telephone Number (during day): Area Code (301) 332-1352

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature [Signature] Date 3-18-81

#### For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6), ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature [Signature] Date 3-26-81  
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954,

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure.

☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register



PHYSICAL APPEARANCE CONT.

storefront; a decorative cornice with modillions; a wood frame door with the panel below a large single sheet of glass; a two pane transom above the door; and a two pane transom above the display window. The second and third floor facade windows are rectangular one over one sashes with wood frames, with wood sills set within a segmental arch opening with brick double rowlock lintels. The windows have operable wood louvered shutters. The large victorian wood cornice comprises elongated modillions brackets and dentils. A festive rectangular canvas banner, depicting an icecream cone, is affixed to the facade of the building between the second and third floor windows. The side (east elevation) has been stuccoed because the original brick was badly deteriorated. There are nine windows; six are rectangular wood frame one over one sash; and two are wood frame, single pane awning windows; all have brick sills; one sash window has iron bars. The ground floor icecream sales window has a canvas awning. There are three sets of doors; a wood, six panel door, the upper two panels are glass; two sets of wood, 15 pane french doors, one has a wood frame screen door; all have brick door sills and brick steps. The chimney has been repaired and stuccoed, retaining the arch chimney cap. The gutters and down spouts are aluminum. The rear elevation is stuccoed with rectangular wood frame one over one sash windows.

On the interior, the first floor comprises a front dining area, the kitchen/serving area, and a rear seating section. In the front dining room the floors are quarry tile, the walls are tongue and groove molding on the lower half and metal, with an elaborate design, on the upper half. The ceiling is also decorative metal and has a ceiling fan. The molding and metal are original and have been restored and painted. The kitchen serving counter is tongue and groove with the wood block top. The wood blocks are recycled gymnasium flooring from City College, a city high school that was undergoing resoration and refurbishing several years ago. The blocks were purchased at the City Salvage Depot. A brick fireplace, opposite the end kitchen counter, has been reopened and restored, and operates during the winter months. The remaining walls and ceilings have been repaired and painted. The original wood stairs leading to the second and third floors have been repaired and refinished. The second floor comprises a front dining area, a hall, a storage room, and two bathrooms. The original wood floors have been refinished. The walls and ceilings have been repaired and painted. The third floor is a living area, comprising of a front living room/bedroom/office; a rear storage/closet room; and a bathroom. The original floors were refinished and the walls and ceilings have been repaired and painted.

SIGNIFICANCE (3) CONT.

The Federal Hill Historic District was shaped by the expansion of the City, South into the peninsula, which was annexed to the City in 1816; the early and later industrialization into the area, including the mining of sands, clay & iron; shipping; ship building & the development of related businesses; construction of railroad lines, to port areas, which further stimulated industrial development of port and the City; immigration, primarily the Irish and Germans; and the later migration of farmers into the City, after the Civil War.

The South Baltimore peninsula was laid out in a grid pattern. Development spanned the 19th century thru the early 20th century. As the area developed, diverse economic groups lived together; professional and wealthier citizens lived on the main streets in larger houses; laborers, artisans and free blacks lived on small streets and alley streets in more modest dwellings. Cross Street

SIGNIFICANCE (3) CONT.

and Light Street evolved as the commercial center. By 1838 the residents petitioned for a market which was constructed in 1845. An elaborate two story brick addition was erected in 1873. The second story of the market structure was used for community meetings, entertainment, political gatherings, etc. The market burned in 1951 and was rebuilt in 1952. The current building is of a non-descript brick and concrete design. The market spawned many businesses and buildings along Cross, Light and South Charles Street.

38 East Cross Street was built c.1875. The structure is more prominent in size, scale, and detail indicating that it was constructed later than the smaller more modest buildings on Cross Street. It is likely that a small structure previously occupied the site. It was also common for corner structures to be built in a grander scale, because of their inherent prominence in the grid layout of the City blocks. The structure was always used for market related businesses including the sale of confections, ice, oysters, and icecream. From 1891 through the early 20th century, Henry Bowers, a South Baltimorean and Fireman operated an icecream parlor in the building and lived on the upper floors. The building was later used for the sale of butter and eggs by the J. Leonard Morris and Company. (John W. Bieherich).

South Baltimore began to decline in the 1960's when plans were announced to demolish a large section of the neighborhood for the construction of a major inner state highway. Many residents and businesses left the area and 38 E. Cross Street was used for transient commercial purposes. By the late 1960's preservationists had purchased many of the buildings, listed the area impacted by the proposed highway on the National Register of Historic Places, and took legal action against the local and Federal Governments to prevent the construction of the road. By the mid 1970's, the restoration of the residential area was well underway; the City changed the road alignment; and the commercial revitalization of Cross and Light Street buildings and businesses began. The City designated an Urban Renewal Area around the Cross Street Market, developed design standards for the rehabilitation of the buildings and provided low interest loans to the property owners. The Cross Street Development Corporation purchased 38 E. Cross Street in 1977 and reactivated the icecream business under the name of the Sundae Times Icecream Parlor. The building was restored and rehabilitated with the icecream parlor/restaurant on the first and second floors and an apartment on the third floor. The rehabilitation has received local and national recognition, as have the major partners in the corporation, Struever Brothers and Eccles. This company was responsible for stimulating commercial and residential rehabilitation around the Cross Street Market in the Federal Hill Historic District.

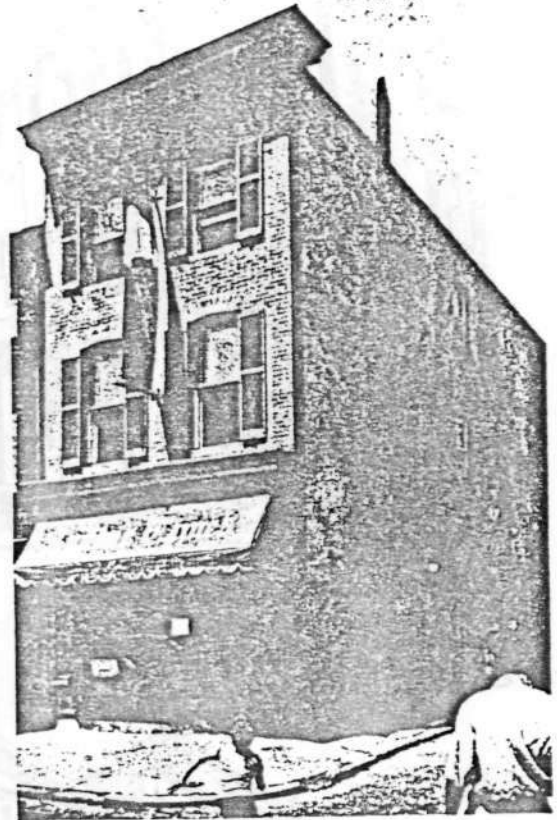


38 EAST CROSS STREET  
Sundae Times

B-3331



Before Renovation



After Renovation



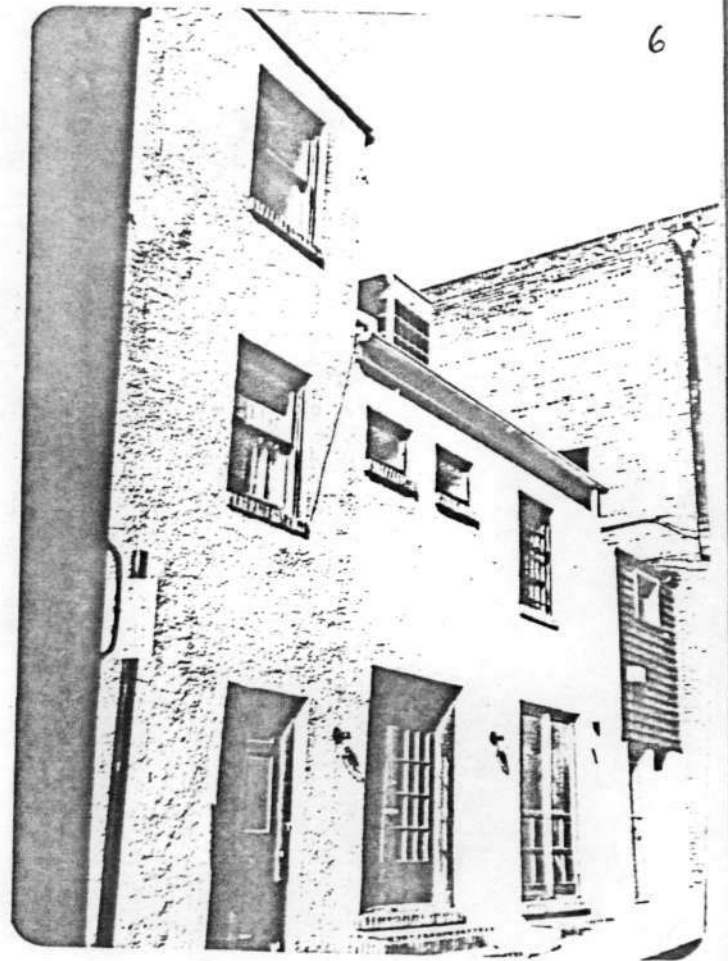
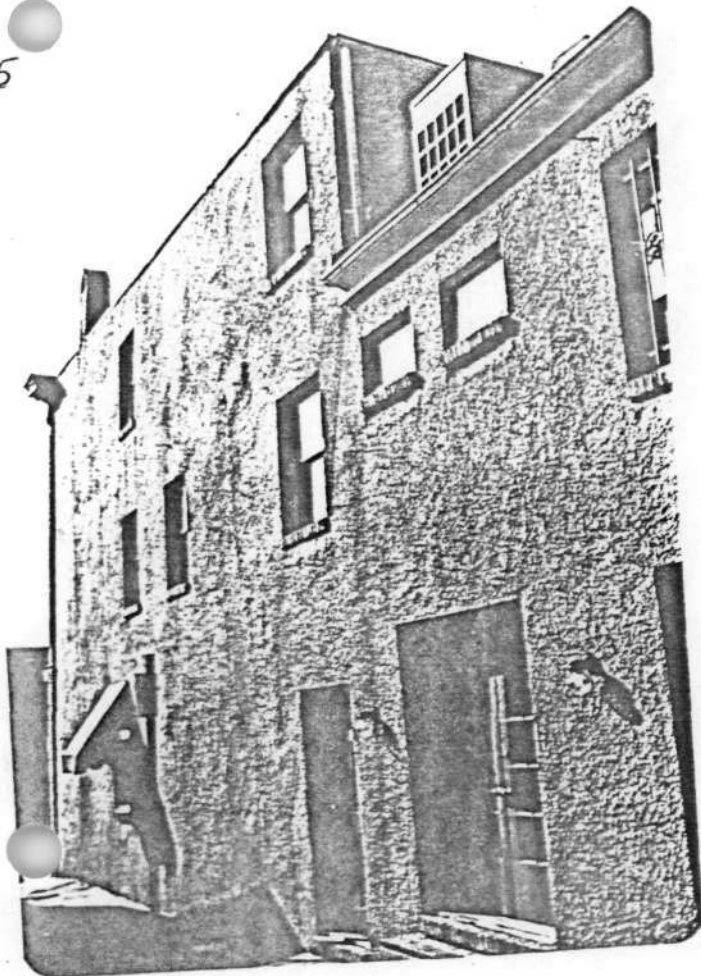
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2

38 E. CROSS ST.



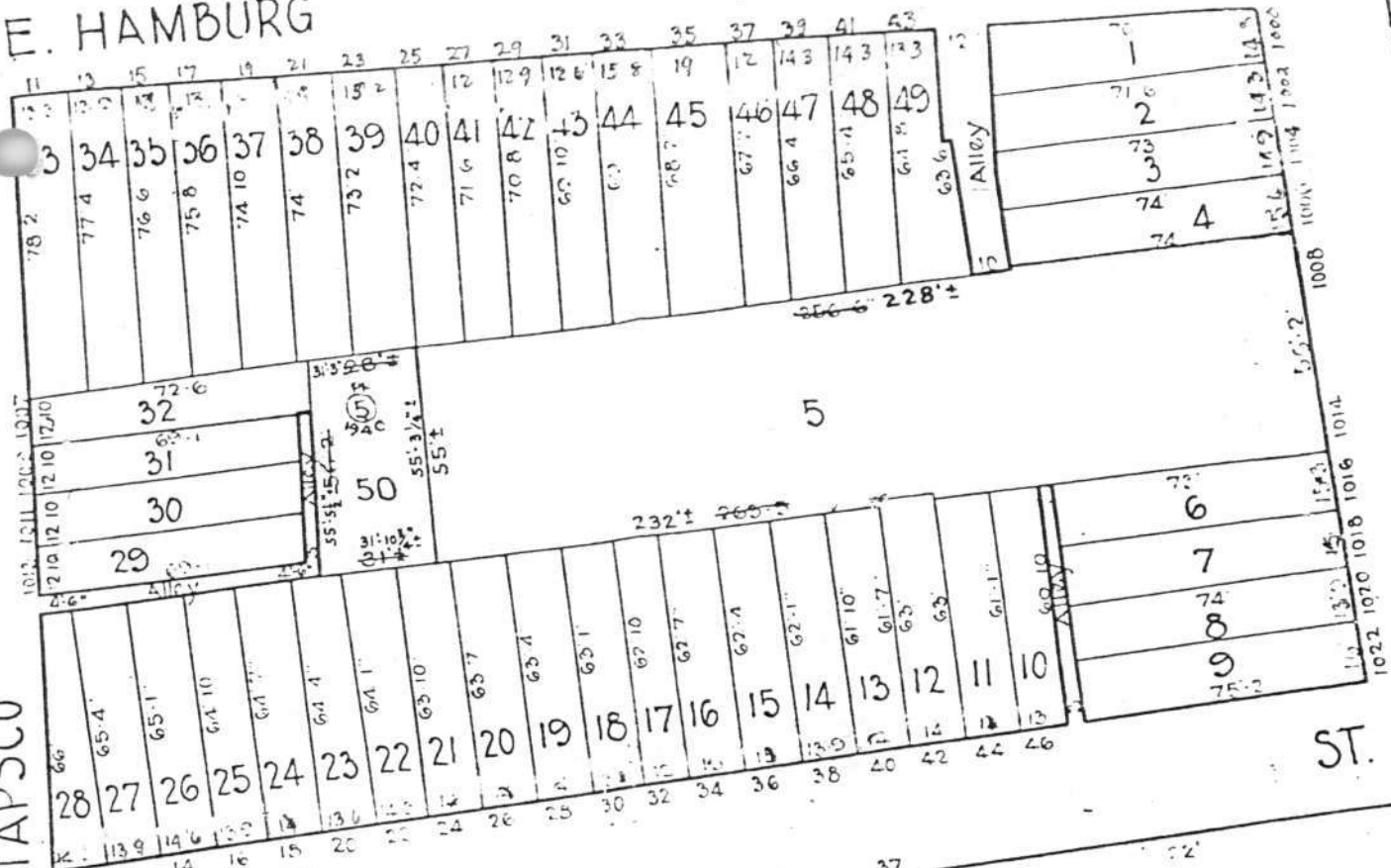


B-3331

ST

E. HAMBURG

ST

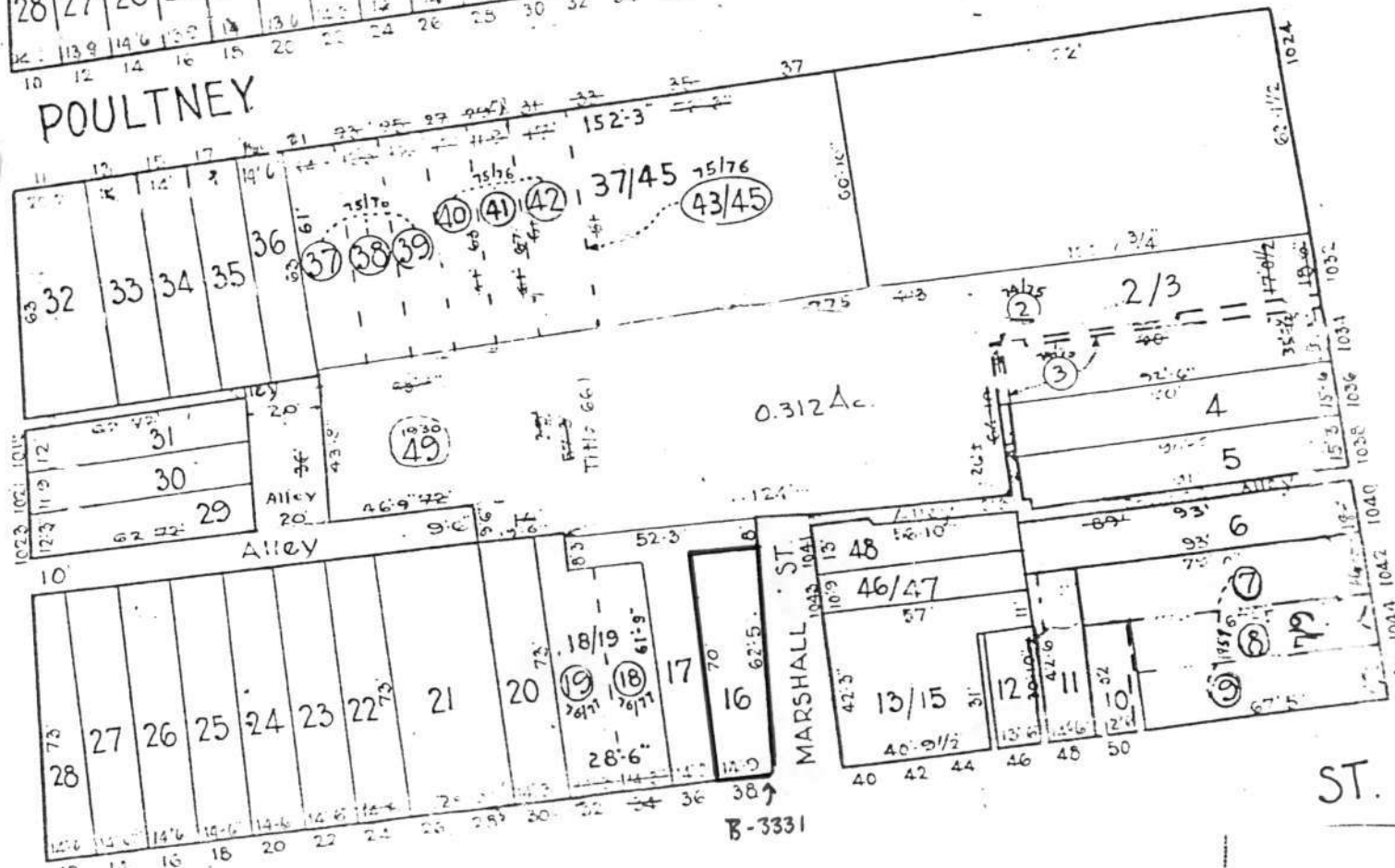


PATAPSCO

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LIGHT



E. CROSS

B-3331

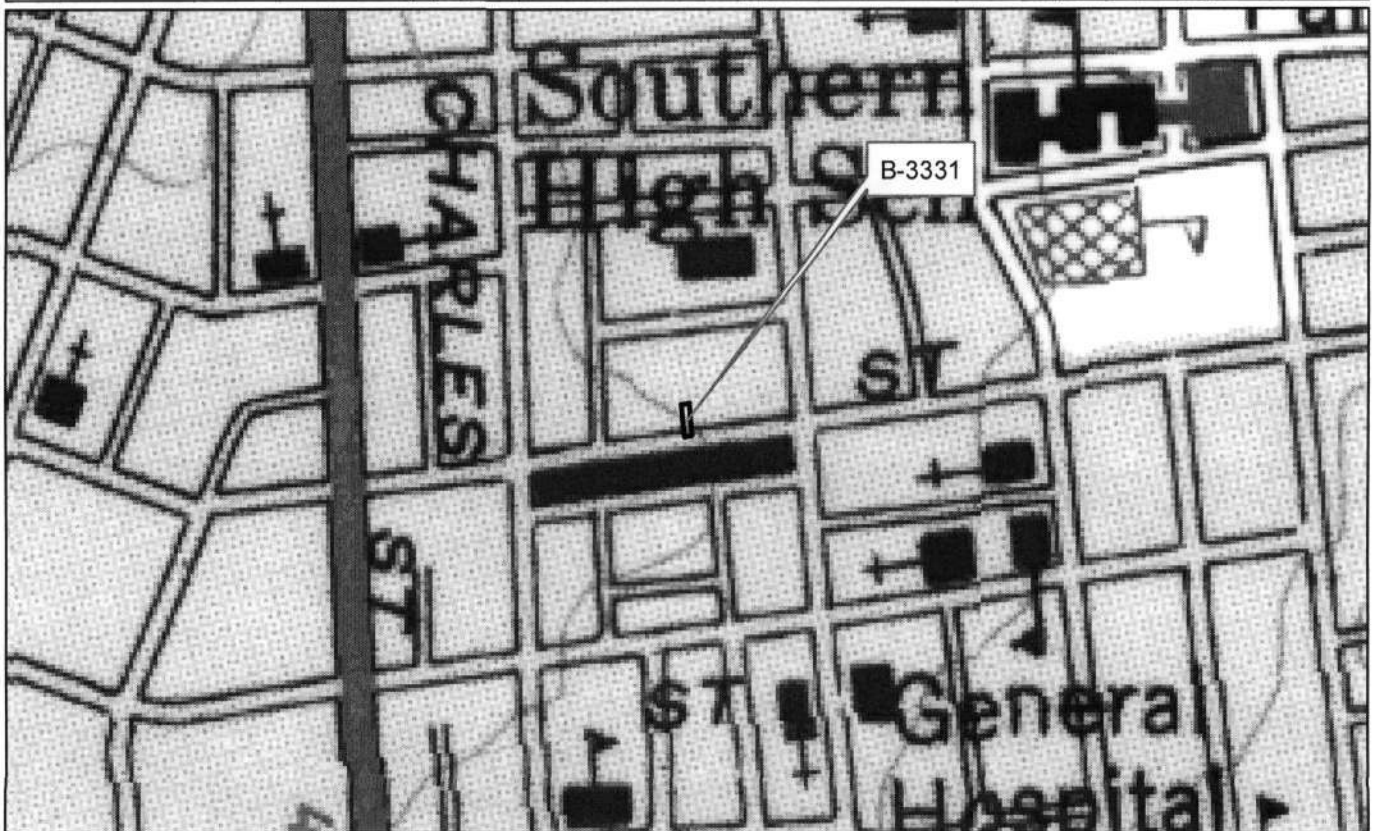
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NOTICE  
THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED  
IN THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE

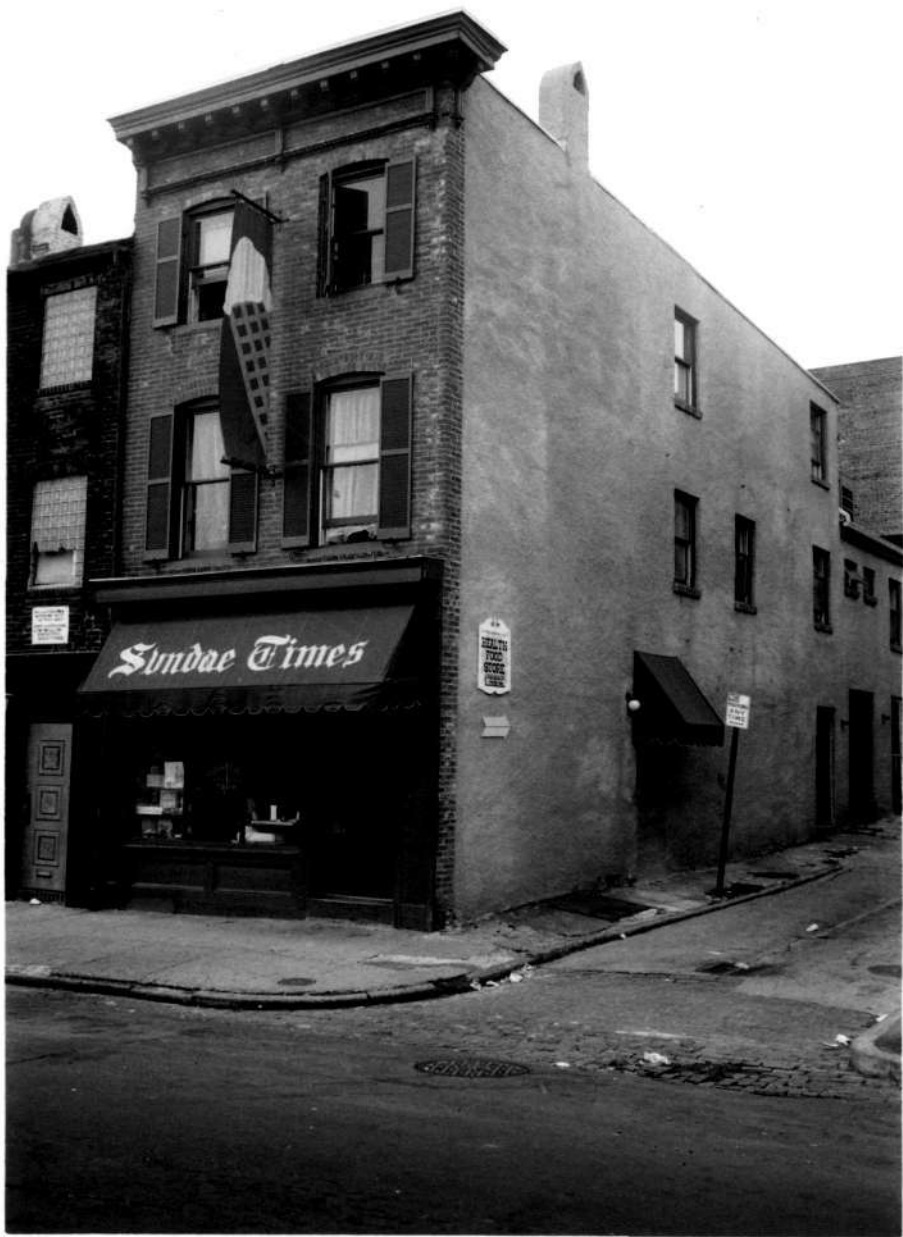
DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF  
PROPERTIES  
WARD 2



B-3331  
38 E. Cross Street  
Block 0935A Lot 016  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.







B-3331      38 E. Cross St.

M.E.H.      5/79

South and east elevations